

Perhaps Alan Bray's greatest works, however, lie not within his art but within his soul. You see, Alan comes from Sangerville, a small town in central Maine where the people do not always enjoy many of the every-day advantages as those of us who have the opportunity to live in more populous and prosperous areas. Closing Mills, unemployment and lower wages place a strain on families and communities, but Alan Bray is a community's strength.

Alan has given his time and his talents to the local college, where he passes on his vast knowledge of art and artistic methods to students eager to absorb it, but who would otherwise be without the opportunity to learn from such life experiences. He has lead the effort to revive the local Grange, once a meeting place for farmers in the surrounding communities to discuss means to deliver their crops to the cities and ensure their earning a fair wage for their long, hard hours of work. Today, the Sangerville Grange is a center of culture and draws musical talent, poets, speakers and others with so much to offer and to teach, much as the town of Collingswood in my district has the Scottish Rite. Like the Rite, the Grange has become widely known for drawing some of the finest talent and sharpest minds to deliver music, art and culture to the small community of good, descent people who so deserve the wonderful offerings a civilized society has to give. It is a result of the vision, character and hard work of Alan Bray.

Alan is now being recognized as a recipient of the Jefferson Award, a prestigious award that honors community service and cooperative spirit, and he is here in Washington today to humbly accept that award for his good works, his good deeds, but mainly, for the good his good deeds, but mainly for the good content of his character. Alan Bray embodies the spirit of returning to one's community a hundred fold that which you have gained from it, and of unpaid public service that is an essential part of the spirit of America. He is a ray of hope to some who are in need of hope; a beacon of light to others who struggle to find their way, and a modern visionary of what otherwise ordinary people can do to make extraordinary things come to be. Congratulations, Alan. Your community, your state, and indeed your nation, thank you.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAXON HIGH SCHOOL IN JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the school administrators, teachers, and students at Paxon High School in Jacksonville, Florida for their outstanding achievement in providing, guiding, and demonstrating a quality education.

Paxon High School was recently highlighted by Newsweek magazine (The Best 100 High Schools in America, May 26, 2003), as the third best school in the nation, as measured by the Challenge Index. This index takes the number of Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all of

the students at a school in 2002 and divides them by the number of graduating seniors.

The editors of Newsweek said they used participation in the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests as benchmarks because "these tests are more likely to stretch young minds—which should be the fundamental purpose of education."

Paxon High School is clearly providing the curricula, support, and leadership in learning that is so very important to our young people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in applauding Paxon High School and all of those schools that strive to prepare their students for higher education and thusly, a higher quality of life. Moreover, I would like to commend the school administrators, superintendents, teachers, and all of the students who have committed themselves to a quality education. As John F. Kennedy once stated, leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

It is my privilege to recognize Paxon High School for its outstanding achievements.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICANS RESIDENT OVERSEAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the contributions made by Association of Americans Resident Overseas (AARO) in defending and promoting, the interests of overseas American before the U.S. Congress and presidential administrations during its thirty-year history.

I want to specifically commend AARO for promoting improvements in American nationality laws which would have taken the citizenship of children of one American parent away from them, for seeking tax equity for Americans working abroad, for working to reconcile social security laws by international agreement for US citizens working abroad, and for securing voting rights for US citizens abroad in Federal elections.

On June 20, 2003, AARO's will celebrate its Thirtieth Birthday.

Mr. Speaker, the leaders of AARO throughout the years have worked hard to represent and advocate for Americans living overseas. As such, this organization is worthy of receiving our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ANDY BROWN OF HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN, EXCEP- TIONAL TEACHER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Hillsdale, Michigan who most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics

and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Mr. Andy Brown teaches Advanced Reading, Writing and Research at Camden-Frontier High School in Camden, Michigan. He is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mr. Brown has taught me the English language and how to convey my thoughts in an organized, precise way. He encouraged me to go after my dreams and accomplish my goals." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Mr. Brown's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

Andy Brown's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Mr. Andy Brown's impact on his students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mr. Andy Brown as a master teacher. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

HONORING KATHERINE DUNHAM ON THE OCCASION OF HER 94TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Katherine Dunham on the occasion of her 94th birthday.

Born in Joliet, Illinois, on June 22, 1910, Katherine Dunham became interested in dance at an early age. While a student at the University of Chicago, she formed a dance group that performed in concert at the Chicago World's Fair in 1934 and with the Chicago Civic Opera in 1935-36.

With a bachelor's degree in anthropology, she soon undertook field studies in the Caribbean and in Brazil. By the time she received her M.A. from the University of Chicago, she had acquired a vast knowledge of the dances and rituals of the black peoples of tropical America. (She later took a Ph.D. in anthropology.)

In 1938, she joined the Federal Theatre Project in Chicago and composed a ballet, *L'Ag'Ya*, based on Caribbean dance. In 1940, she formed an all-black company, which began touring extensively by 1943. *Tropics* (choreographed 1937) and *Le Jazz Hot* (1938) were among the earliest of many works based on her research.

Katherine Dunham is noted for her innovative interpretations of primitive, ritualistic, and ethnic dances and her tracing the roots of black culture. Many of her students, trained in her studios in Chicago and New York City, have become prominent in the field of modern dance. She also choreographed for Broadway